



Photo by Todd Callentine

Poetry Out Loud aims to:

- encourage the nation's youth in grades 9-12 to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation.
- promote poetry in both the classroom and the community.
- build students' public speaking skills, self-confidence, and knowledge of their literary heritage.



Poetry Out Loud is a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation and the state arts agencies across the United States.



Couplet

Photo by Todd Callentine



Ballad
Sonnet

Photo by James Kegley

How to bring *Poetry Out Loud* to your students?



1. Register your school to participate using the easy online registration on the Ohio Arts Council website, www.oac.state.oh.us.
2. Follow the guidelines in the Teacher toolkit provided upon registration to incorporate *POL* into your classroom curriculum. Discover the wonderful poems, classics and contemporary works, in the anthology and online at the *Poetry Out Loud* website, www.poetryoutloud.org.
3. Hold classroom competitions and choose a school *POL* champion.
4. Support your school champion as he or she competes at the State Finals in Columbus.

“For poems are not words, after all, but fires for the cold, ropes let down to the lost, something as necessary as bread in the pockets of the hungry.”

~ Mary Oliver

No coward soul is mine
No trembler in the world's storm-troubled sphere
I see Heaven's glories shine
And Faith shines equal arming me from Fear
~ Emily Bronte

I've stayed in the front yard all my life.
I want a peek at the back
Where it's rough and untended and hungry weed grows.
A girl gets sick of a rose.
~ Gwendolyn Brooks

Ohio's *Poetry Out Loud* State Champions

In 2006, Ohio's first state champion, Jackson Hille, became the first *Poetry Out Loud* National Champion. The program has grown steadily since then and each year Ohio sends a talented student to the *Poetry Out Loud* National Contest. Ohio's past state champions are pictured throughout this display.

Past Ohio Champions include:

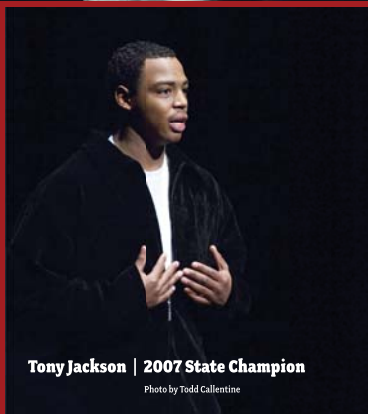
- 2013 Taribo Osuobeni**
Westerville Central High School
Westerville, OH
- 2012 Makala White**
Toledo Early College High School
Toledo, OH
- 2011 Caira Lee**
Shaker Heights High School
Shaker Heights, OH
- 2010 Lynsay Strahorn**
Chaminade Julianne High School
Dayton, OH
- 2009 Mido Aly**
Upper Arlington High School
Upper Arlington, OH
- 2008 Rachel Chandler**
Chaminade Julianne High School
Dayton, OH
- 2007 Tony Jackson**
Westland High School
Galloway, OH
- 2006 Jackson Hille**
State and National Champion
Columbus Alternative High School
Columbus, OH



Jackson Hille | 2006 State and National Champion
Photo by Todd Callentine



Caira Lee | 2011 State Champion
Photo by James Kiepley

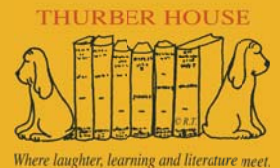


Tony Jackson | 2007 State Champion
Photo by Todd Callentine

Testimonial

Back when everything was still to come,
luck leaked out everywhere.
I gave my promise to the world,
and the world followed me here.

~ Rita Dove



The Ohio Arts Council is grateful to the Ohioana Library Association and Thurber House for their ongoing support of *Poetry Out Loud*.

Ode Free Verse Villanelle



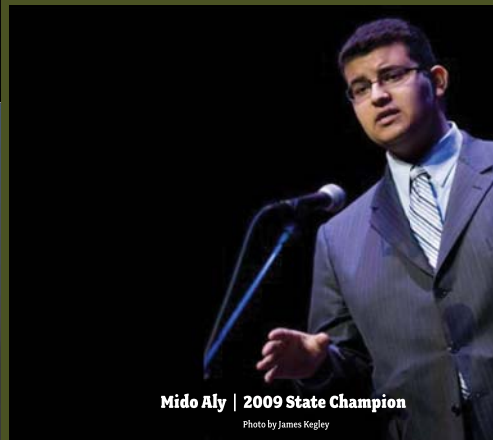
Makala White | 2012 State Champion
Photo by James Kegley



Lynsay Strahorn | 2010 State Champion
Photo by James Kegley

Students representing all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands win an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete for the title of *Poetry Out Loud* National Champion. Ohio's 2013 Champion, Taribo Osuoben, received an Honorable Mention award in Region One.

The Ohio Arts Council is proud to sponsor the program and invites teachers and librarians to participate. To get involved in Ohio, contact the state coordinator at pol.contractor@oac.state.oh.us or call 614-728-4481.



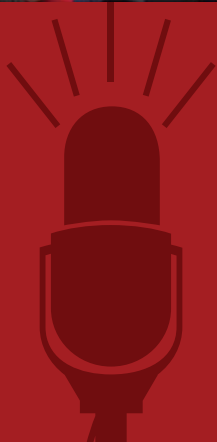
Mido Aly | 2009 State Champion
Photo by James Kegley



Taribo Osuoben | 2013 State Champion
Photo by James Kegley



Rachel Chandler | 2008 State Champion
Photo by Todd Callentine



Invitation to Love

Come in the twilight soft and gray,
Come in the night or come in the day,
Come, O love, whene'er you may,
And you are welcome, welcome.

~ Paul Laurence Dunbar